

WMAC(NS) QUARTERLY MEETING

December 7-8, 1990

Members: Lindsay Staples
Frank Elanik
Hugh Monaghan
Art Martell
Sadie Whitbread

Others: Laurie Henderson, Secretariat
Dave Murray, Canadian Parks Service (Friday)
Dave Neufeld, Canadian Parks Service (Friday)
Brian Pelchat, Yukon Renewable Resources
Don Russell, Canadian Wildlife Service
Skeeter Verlaine-Wright, Yukon Renewable Resources
Cor Smits, Yukon Renewable Resources (Friday)

Bob Bell, FJMC (Saturday)
Alex Aviugana, FJMC (Saturday)
Joseph Haluksit, FJMC (Saturday)
Don Dowler, FJMC (Saturday)
Vic Gillman, Fisheries and Oceans (Saturday)
Albert Peter, Porcupine Caribou Management Board (Saturday)

1. Approval of Agenda

Several other items were added to the agenda:

- i) status of Migratory Bird Protocol;
- ii) status of swan hunting in community of Aklavik;
- iii) status of 1991-1994 budget;
- iv) follow-up on computer-assisted decision making; and
- v) Arctic National Wildlife Refuge/10.02 issue.

2. Approval of August 28-29, 1990 Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as drafted:

Moved by: Hugh Monaghan
Seconded by: Frank Elanik

3. Review of Action Items

- i) Factsheet and Newsletter - Secretariat reported that the next newsletter will have an article on the drift waste research conducted by the Environmental Protection Service and the next factsheet is being prepared on habitat protection by the Canadian Wildlife Service.
- ii) Grizzly Bear Research Program - Discussion was held regarding the status of bear conservation and management program, particularly with regards to an education/communications program. Item was referred to

the budget discussion to identify funds for developing a communications package. On the research side, the GNWT has begun to further analyze previously gathered data to more fully identify sex, age and other attributes of harvested bears. As well, the Aklavik Hunters' and Trappers' Committee is working towards refining and improving their data for the harvest study.

ACTION: Letter will be sent to the Aklavik HTC regarding status of grizzly research with proposal for a workshop in March

ACTION: Letter to WMAC/NWT requesting that they consider placing a priority on the analysis of the grizzly bear data in anticipation of the upcoming field season, with proposal for a workshop in Aklavik on this matter in March

- iii) Research Permitting Factsheet - Jeff Hunston has not yet prepared the factsheet, however, he indicated it would be available in advance of the next quarterly meeting.

4. Updates

- i) Northern Yukon National Park - No update was available for this meeting. Sadie Whitbread reported that the process for selecting an Inuvialuktun name for the park was underway. Proposed names will be presented to the WMAC/NS for selection in 1992.
- ii) Herschel Island Territorial Park - The management plan was distributed for final approval.

Motion to adopt the Herschel Island Territorial Park Management Plan

Moved by: Frank Elanik

Seconded by: Art Martell

ACTION: Letter will be sent to Art Webster, Minister of Renewable Resources recommending acceptance of the Herschel Island Territorial Park Management Plan.

Concern was raised regarding the decision made that the air charter companies will not be using floats any longer. This creates a problem with landing - only tundra tires are available, however, YTG Parks has indicated that the spit on the Island should not be used for aircraft landing. As well, landing is prohibited on the spits in the Northern Yukon National Park. This is putting an additional burden on parks staff as they often have to ferry people across the ocean from the mouth of the Firth to the Herschel Island spit.

ACTION: Letter to both parks outlining the concern regarding landing aircraft and identifying possible alternate landing strips. A meeting involving the parks and Council members Frank Elanik and Sadie Whitbread will be recommended.

The issue of training and employing Inuvialuit on Herschel Island was revisited. Concern was expressed regarding the requirements of the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement* with regards to staffing.

ACTION: Letters shall be forwarded to Jeff Hunston, Heritage Branch and Ian Robertson, Parks Branch inquiring as to training and employment commitments for the upcoming field season and as to the present status of existing job positions. Several suggestions for introducing new people, particularly young people through existing programs, into the field of parks and heritage management should be proposed and a meeting requested to address this issue. Lindsay Staples and Hugh Monaghan will be responsible for this initiative.

ACTION: A joint meeting with FJMC and WMAC/NWT will be requested to discuss the longer term possibilities for enhancing training. Short term opportunities regarding field work, from all sectors and agencies, will also be listed and training opportunities identified.

- iii) Wildlife Research Projects - Concern was raised as to the need for continued contact with the community on wildlife research. It was noted that since the field work has ended, there is little regular contact with the community.

ACTION: The Regional Biologist, when placed in Dawson, would travel regularly to the community of Aklavik to increase contact with the community.

ACTION: Skeeter Verlaine-Wright, IFA Co-ordinator for the Yukon Government, will investigate the possibility of organizing a workshop in Aklavik in the spring to review status of Yukon Government IFA implementation. The workshop will address wildlife and heritage issues in particular.

ACTION: The YTG Wildlife Branch and the Canadian Wildlife Service commit to holding at least two meetings a year in the community to update and discuss local concerns and interests.

5. Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board

Hugh Monaghan reported that new members have been appointed to the Board. The Board is mandated to look at all fish and wildlife matters in the Yukon, excepting the North Slope and Porcupine caribou. Half of the members of the Board are from Yukon First Nations and half are non-native individuals. They wish to strengthen their relationship with the WMAC(NS). Ongoing work includes revisions to the *Yukon Wildlife Act* and meeting with various people in communities and Band Councils.

6. Northern Yukon National Park Management Plan

Dave Murray reviewed the structure of the NYNP management team, which includes two parks representatives and three Inuvialut reps. The planning process will run over three years and will include both public consultation and government agency consultation. The terms of reference for the planning program was circulated for information. The final plan should be complete by 1993. Draft material will be circulated to the Council for updating and approval as required.

Suggestion was made to include the YTG Regional Biologist from Dawson on the planning team that supports the process. Other individuals, such as Canadian Wildlife Service, should also be contacted and involved in the support team.

Suggestion was made to assess the possibilities for incorporating a trainee position within the park planning process. This position could also act as a community liaison to ensure contact is on-going and most effective. Dave Murray expressed concern about the feasibility of creating a trainee position, in terms of finances and practicality.

ACTION: Dave Murray will investigate the possibility of developing a trainee position for the Northern Yukon National Park planning process. Assistance will be provided to park planners, regarding job descriptions and roles, by the Secretariat. The status of the trainee position will be reported to the WMAC(NS) at the next meeting.

ACTION: Letter will be forwarded to the Director General of Canadian Parks Service complementing them on the proposed process and recommending the creation of a trainee position within the planning team.

7. Tourism Guidelines Review

The workshop on tourism guidelines was held on October 23, 1990. The summary report was circulated to Council members. Sample guidelines have been prepared for discussion and refinement.

ACTION: Preliminary work on the guidelines will be completed by Dave Mossop, Frank Elanik and Sadie Whitbread. This work should be conducted in January in anticipation of presenting this work to a joint meeting of FJMC/WMAC(NWT) and the WMAC(NS). Subsequent to this, the guidelines will be circulated to the communities in February so that final guidelines will be given to the EISC by March.

8. North Yukon Land Use Planning Commission

Item deferred due to the agreement between the Council for Yukon Indians and the Inuvialut Regional Corporation to postpone land use planning in the North Yukon.

9. Quarterly Statement

The quarterly statement was reviewed as submitted. In light of available dollars several items were identified for possible support. It was recognized that additional funds may be available through the participation budgets of both Canada and the Inuvialuit. Items raised for consideration:

- i) opportunities for trainee work with both WMAC/NS plan and Northern Yukon National Park management plan;
- ii) ANWR support for lobbying;
- iv) participation in North American Natural Resources Conference; and,
- v) educational material on bear awareness.

Motion to fund the new projects

Moved by: Hugh Monaghan

Seconded by: Sadie Whitbread

Carried

ACTION: A resolution outlining the new projects that the WMAC/NS will be supporting will be prepared. The resolution will indicate the one-time nature of support for these new initiatives will be prepared.

10. FJMC/WMAC/Agency Working Relationship

All present indicated their support for the working document, emphasizing that it should prove useful to new people who become involved in the process and as a reminder of the roles and responsibilities for all involved in co-management.

Moved to adopt the FJMC/WMAC/Agency Working Agreement

Moved by: Bob Bell

Seconded by: Sadie Whitbread

Carried

ACTION: The newsletter will report on the FJMC/WMAC/Agency agreement in its next issue.

11. Conservation and Management Plan

The plan was reviewed as drafted. Additional comments from the Council are to be provided to the Secretariat. Following this, the plan will be revised and circulated to the *ad hoc* working group for comment. As appropriate, comments from the working group will be incorporated in the plan. A second draft of the plan will be presented to the Council at the next meeting. Each member will then begin consultation within their respective organizations to identify potential concerns in the plan and to garner support for its recommendations.

ACTION: Comments from Council members on the draft conservation and management plan are to be provided to the Secretariat by December 17, 1990.

ACTION: A two-day workshop will be convened by the Secretariat with the *ad hoc* government working group to review the draft conservation and management plan.

ACTION: The second draft of the conservation and management plan will be presented to the Council in February for review and for use in consulting individual agencies and organizations.

12. Update on 1991-1994 Budgeting

The Secretariat reported on the changes made to the initial budget in the categories of training and honoraria. The group was informed that two budget submission were being made to the Federal Treasury Board - one within the existing cap and one for the overtarget costs.

13. North Slope Conference

It was agreed that the conference should be deferred until the fall of 1991.

ACTION: Letter shall be forwarded to Minister of Renewable Resources recommending a fall North Slope Conference

14. Waterfowl Issues

An update on the briefing that occurred on the Migratory Birds Protocol and waterfowl management was reviewed. It was noted that the CWS staff were not fully informed as to the provisions and requirements of the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement*. Also reviewed were the draft principles guiding development of regulations, bulaws and policies regarding migratory bird management, prepared following the workshop, by the WMAC/NWT.

ACTION: Members will provide the Secretariat with comments on the draft principles regarding waterfowl management prepared by the WMAC/NWT by December 22, 1990. Following this, a revised statement will be prepared and distributed. As necessary, a teleconference will be scheduled.

15. Computer-Assisted Decision Making

The workshop recommended in the Human Resource Report prepared by Bob Bell was convened with the assistance of CEARC over a year ago. Present status and update are to be determined.

ACTION: Bob Bell will investigate the status and future of the computer-assisted decision-making project and report to the WMAC/NS at the next meeting.

16. . Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for mid-February, 1991.